



THE TOKEN HUNTER

July 1996, Vol. 15 No. 7



The Official Publication Of The National Utah Token Society (N.U.T.S.)

DEDICATED TO THE COLLECTING, RECORDING, AND PRESERVING
OF UTAH'S HISTORICAL MEDALS, TOKENS, COINS, AND BOTTLES

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NEXT MEETING

Thursday,
July 25, 1996
7:15 p.m.

PROGRAM

"BOURSE NITE"
Trading, Swapping,
Wheeling, and Dealing of
Anything of Value Among
Club Members

****PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ***** PRIZES ****



Barber Half Dollar



Barber Quarter



Barber Dime



Liberty Nickel



Indian Head Penny



Walking Liberty
Half Dollar



Standing Liberty
Quarter



Mercury Dime



Buffalo Nickel



1943 Steel Penny



WAGON MASTERS REPORT

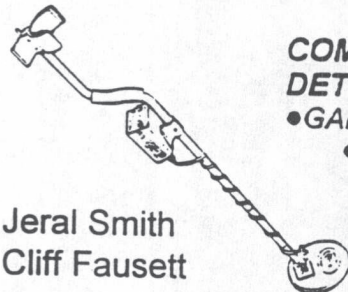
By Bruce Dugger



We had 51 entries for the F.O.M. For those of you that could not make it to the meeting, you missed out on seeing some nice finds. This dry spell is sure making it difficult to dig in a lot of areas. The ground is either like cement or too many tall weeds. I guess I will need to start carrying a small jack hammer & a weed eater as part of my digging equipment. I would like to thank all of the club members who helped set-up & tear-down for the Token/Coin show. It was a lot of work for everyone involved, but it benefits the whole club with the money it brings back into the club. Well now its time for the 1st place winners for the F.O.M.

U.S. Coin-----Bruce Dugger--1912-S Barber Dime
Foreign Coin----- Jeral Smith--1866 Vatican Papal States
Token-----Bruce Dugger--St. Barbara G/F 1-Drink or Cigar, Winter Quarters, Ut
Jewelry-----Rob Winkle--Gold Crucifix Ring
Artifact-----Two way Tie between;
Bruce Dugger--1800s Miners candle stick holder
Jeral Smith--Special Police Badge--Salt Lake City
Button-----Two way Tie between;
Bruce Dugger--Civil War Era Cavalry Officer Button
Jeral Smith--Coat of Arms Button
Non-Metal-----Bruce Dugger--Coreless German Swirl Marble
Peoples Choice Bottle-----Bruce Dugger--Lydia E Pinkham Medicine
Most Valuable Bottle-----Bruce Dugger--Dr. J.H. McLeans Volcanic oil (\$15.00)
Oldest U.S. Coin-----Bruce Dugger--1890 V-Nickle
Oldest U.S. Cent-----Jeral Smith--1886 Indian Head
Most Valuable Coin-----Bruce Dugger--1910-S Barber Dime (\$30.00)

J & J METAL DETECTORS



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ACTING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE TOKEN SHOW

First of all, I'm sorry for not getting anything in the newsletter and for not being at the club meeting last month. The Club's coin show in June was a great success. I want to thank all of you who helped in any way from start to end. I know I was sure glad when Sunday night came around. I was tired and most relieved when Jolene Henderson came and collected the money -- I don't like to hold money in such amounts (unless it's mine). I am not sure how much we made after paying all the bills, but I'm sure it is enough to take care of the club into next year. It's a lot of work, as well as fun, but I'm glad we only have one show a year.

Speaking of shows, the Fourteenth Annual ATCO Show (Active Token Collectors Organization) will be here in Salt Lake City on August 24-25, 1996. The N.U.T.S. is hosting the event which will give us some good exposure. Furthermore, club members are eligible to enter an exhibit (an application form is included in the Token Hunter). There should be over 60 tables of tokens and other displays, and admission is free. I'm sure Bob Campbell will have more information at our next meeting.

BOURSE NITE

Speaking of club meeting, we are going to have a "Bourse Nite" this month. Now come on gang, we all know what "bourse"¹ means, and I know that 90% of you have coins, tokens, bottles, marbles, books, magazines, equipment, or other good "stuff" to trade. The club has had some great Bourse Nites in the past, but the last couple of years, we've all acted like we don't have anything to trade. So all of you old-timer's had better show up with things to trade and show the newer members how this works. Start getting your stuff together now, and let's have some fun and do some trading!

A TALE OF TWO RINGS

I have two stories this month about rings I found for folks. One has a sad ending and the other has a happy ending.

The first ring I found was for a friend of my son-in-law. The ring was made of gold and belonged to his girl friend. It took me about 45 minutes to find the ring in the barn because the friend wasn't sure if he lost it in the hay or out with the horses. Tragically, about 16 hours after I found the ring, the girl friend was killed in a one car roll-over.

The second ring belonged to a young couple from Boise, Idaho, who came down to a horse show in Grantsville. The little gal gave her one-carat diamond wedding ring to her hubby while she rode in the horse show. Hubby put the ring in his pocket, but when he changed cloths to go home, the ring fell out. To make matters worse, they didn't realize the ring was gone until they were well on their way home. The person in charge of the horse show gave them my name. I took my detector over to the arena and found the ring in about ten minutes. It is now safely back in Idaho.

¹ I must admit, I didn't know what "bourse" meant, so I looked it up in the dictionary -- it is the stock exchange in Paris. The Editor.

CLUB OUTING AT ALUNITE

Well its time for another club outing on the week-end of Aug. 3rd & 4th. How many of you have ever been to a Ghost Town named Alunite? Myself, I have never taken the time to go there. I have heard of Marysville Tokens as well as a variety of different coins being found there. It sounds like it has some very good potential for Tokens as well as coins and other things. If you do not want to stay at Alunite, then its only a few miles up the mountain to another Ghost Town (Kimberly) which is a beautiful area, all Pines & Quakes. I might not be able to stay on Sunday, (wont know for sure until the week before) but prior to that I will be there. Please read the story and look at the map & I will see you there.

Questions? Call Wagon Master Bruce Dugger

ALUNITE Piute County

Mining
Class 3

The nation's first commercially available potash ore of alunite was discovered in 1910-12 by a local Marysville prospector, Tom Gillan. The estimated 30 million tons of the potassium aluminum sulphate ore, more than in any other state in the country, is located up Cottonwood Canyon about eight to ten miles southwest of Marysville.

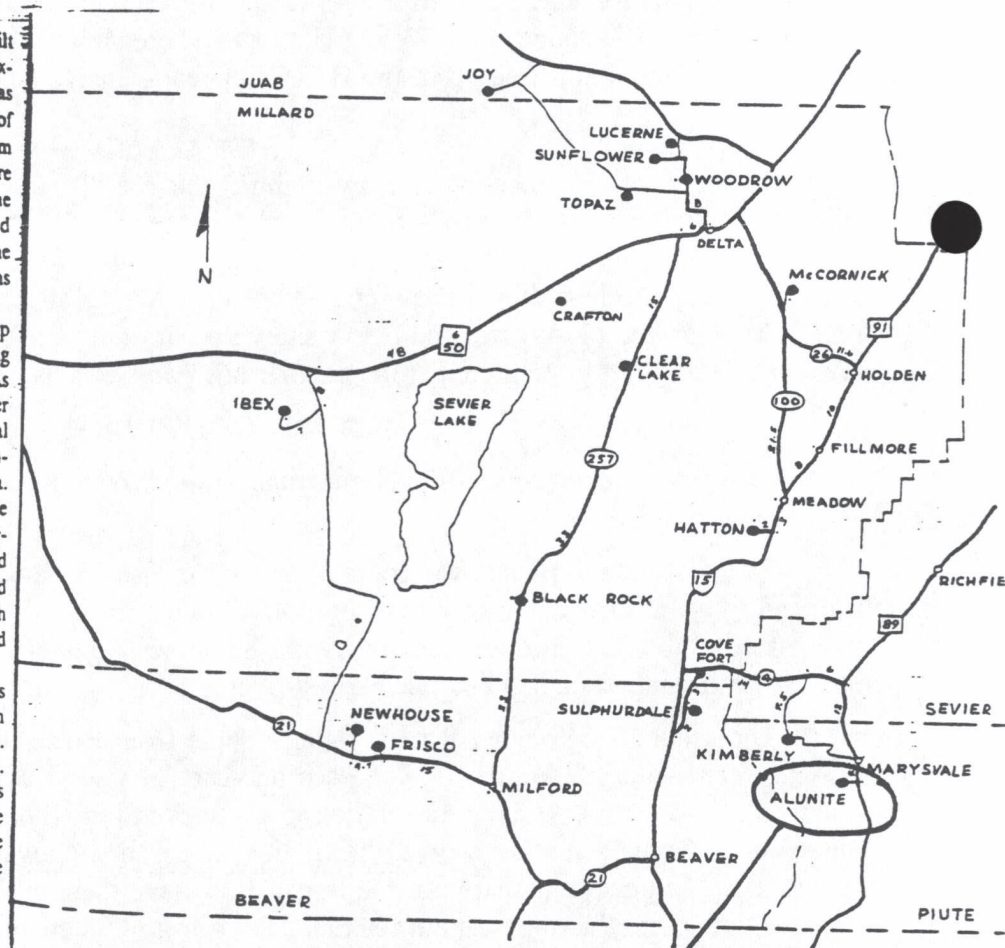
In 1914-15 the Mineral Products Corporation built a reduction plant in the lower mouth of the canyon to extract the pure potash from the ore. An aerial tramway was constructed from the mine up in the narrow reaches of the canyon down to more level and broader areas. From these the ore was hauled in wagons to the plant. The ore veins in this area run 52 feet wide by 20-35 feet thick. Some of the mines were the Florence, Kenyon, Lucky Boy and Mohawk. The first shipment in 1915 from the plant to the railhead at Marysville five miles north consisted of 28 tons of potash.

A small company town called Alunite was built up around the plant. There was a company store, boarding house, school, post office and several small dwellings. As World War I began, the government was concerned over the possible unavailability of aluminum from the usual foreign sources. Experiments were conducted on the alunite, using a 24 hour work force, to extract the alumina. With the increase in employees the population of the little town exceeded 100. Although the experiments were successful, the process was very costly and the mine was held in abeyance. As the war ended, the experimenting stopped and much of the plant was shut down. In 1928-30 as potash extraction also became too expensive, the mines closed and the mill was torn down.

In the Second World War, a limited amount of ore was taken from the veins and experiments again carried out in Salt Lake City although nothing was rebuilt in the old town.

Four and a half miles south from Marysville on U.S. Highway 89 a good dirt road runs west into the foothills 1.2 miles to the townsite. Many ghostly rock and concrete foundations, walls, ruins and dumps cover the area. The operating mine further to the north on the hillside is the Deer Trail silver mine.

References: 16, 37, 86, 100.



THIS IS THE PLACE



COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I have been out of the loop for the past two months. I was involved in a federal jury trial that was scheduled to go five weeks and ended up lasting eight weeks. Fortunately I won, and I took a vacation to do some detecting. We went to Yellowstone for a few days and then stayed with my in-laws at the north shore of Lake Tahoe.

I detected for an hour at the local park in West Yellowstone. There were massive readings of iron that made it hard to detect good targets. I finally dug one of the iron targets and found an old railroad spike. One of the local merchants told me that the railroad came into town right next to the city park. I finally found some coins from the 1950's and 60's, but I sure would like to detect the old railroad station located near the Yellowstone Park entrance. The station is now a museum run by a family, so it might be possible to get permission. Before my next trip to Yellowstone, I plan to write the museum and offer to donate any artifacts I find, except old coins, in exchange for permission to detect.

Since I had won the trial, I rewarded myself with the purchase of a used Whites Surfmaster PI. I detected on the Tahoe beaches last year, and all of the black sand gave my detector fits. I had to turn the sensitivity down so low that I could only get about four inches of depth. Furthermore, the black sand caused a number of false signals.

The pulse induction¹ of the Surfmaster PI totally ignored the black sand, and you could go from dry beach, to the surf line, and into the water without any problems or adjustments. The only difficulty inherent in all pulse induction machines is the lack of target identification and their inability to discriminate pieces of iron without also eliminating good targets. You can adjust the pulse delay to discriminate non-ferrous targets (pull-tabs and bottle caps) but you also lose depth. Furthermore, since most gold rings read the same as a pull-tab, the discrimination of junk targets eliminates the gold jewelry that is your primary goal. Since recovery in beach sand is quick, easy, and non-destructive, I found the lack of discrimination to be only a minor short-coming.

The Surfmaster PI is water proof to 100 feet and comes with permanently attached, waterproof headphones. The electronics are stored in a water-tight case with an O-ring seal. On

¹ Pulse induction works on the theory that mineralized ground and salt do not hold radio wave energy as long as conductive targets like gold or silver. In other words, conductive metals (gold, silver, and aluminum) hold the detector's radio energy longer than the minerals and/or salt in the soil. The pulse induction detector sends a radio signal and then shuts down until the radio energy dissipates from the minerals or salt. When the detector turns back on a few micro seconds later, it reads the energy still held by the conductive targets. This is why PI machines cannot effectively discriminate nails or other ferrous targets since larger pieces of iron hold the detector's radio energy at least as long as a gold ring or silver coin.

my second day, I plugged in the batteries but failed to notice that the O-ring had fallen off. After a few minutes in the water, the detector began making strange sounds and I saw water in the case. I surfaced and began cursing myself for being so stupid -- I was sure I had ruined my new detector. However, on checking the instruction book, it said if fresh water gets into the unit to let it dry overnight, and it should be all right. Sure enough, the next morning, the detector was as good as new.

Using a wet suit (water temperature was 65 degrees), I snorkeled for hours in the pristine waters of Tahoe (in most places, you can see to a depth of sixty-feet). The Surfmaster PI exceeded my expectations, and I could not believe the depth. Some pull-tags and coins were found at eight to ten inches, and I dug nails at depths in excess of 15 inches. I used a scoop for a while, but I found it was easier and quicker to simply fan the sand with my swim fin. While my finds were nothing to write home about, I was impressed with the potential of the pulse induction technology. I was sure if good targets were in the area, I would have found them. After about eight hours of searching, I had found hundreds of pull-tabs² (which I didn't mind because I knew if I was finding pull-tabs I wasn't missing gold rings), dozens of coins, a hand-full of tokens, and one silver ring.

More important, water hunting was just plain fun. With a snorkel and wet-suit, you are not limited to the beach, and your search area increases ten-fold. Park officials discouraged metal detecting on the beach during the busy part of the day and on week-ends; however, with a water detector, they didn't care when you searched because, being out in the water, you were away from the crowds. Furthermore, people on the beach made rude comments about an old guy scratching the beach for "pennies," but I heard a number of positive and envious comments about my use of an underwater metal detector (searching for treasure underwater is obviously more "romantic" than searching for treasure on dry land).

Finally, I got up early one morning with the Spectrum XLT and searched the parking lot and sidewalk area of the old and abandoned Cal-Neva³ casino built in the 1930's. I had visions of finding tons of silver dimes, quarters, and even dollars. My first swing of the coil brought a solid target in the penny to dime range. I quickly dug down about two inches to find a 1962 penny. Over the next two hours I dug about a dozen pennies ranging from 1935 to 1966. However, to my surprise, I did not find one dime, quarter, or dollar. Finding the pennies convinced me that the area had not been previously searched and that I would have found silver if it was there. I am still trying to figure out why I only found pennies. Maybe all they had were penny slot machines at the old Cal-Neva!



² I recovered all pull-tabs and other junk and threw them in the trash.

³ Cal-Neva straddles the California and Nevada boarder. The resort is famous because they painted the state line through the entire resort including the casino, the pool, and a few of the guest rooms. The novelty is that you can jump (or swim) back and fourth across the state line.

Dear Fellow Collectors,

July 11, 1996

I would like to encourage all N.U.T.S. members to attend the Active Token Collectors Organization, national token show, being hosted by the National Utah Token Society show August 23-25, 1996 in Salt Lake City, Utah. There are a few tables left, if you are interested in reserving a table please call 801-467-8636. Tables are \$100.00 each or \$175.00 for a corner.

August 10, 1996 is the last day that you can make reservations at the Best Western Olympus Hotel, if you need to stay overnight. The hotel has some rooms available under the ATCO convention, but they are limited. Salt Lake City is sold out this weekend and it will be difficult to reserve a room after the August 10th deadline. Half of the rooms are already gone, and you shouldn't wait until the last minute. For reservations please call 800-426-0722. Rates are \$85 a night. This may seem high to some but this is the best rate available for a convention hotel in Salt Lake City.

For the first time there will be space for competitive displays. American Numismatic Association rules will apply to the displays. If you have something, you would like to show this is your chance. Use accompanying form.

A dealer setup will be on Friday, August 23rd from 2:00PM to 9:00PM. Earlybird and Dealer badges will be available to N.U.T.S members for \$10 to those without tables.

Bob Campbell
Bourse Chairman

WANTED: IDAHO TOKENS

Wanted by serious collector. Buy or Trade. I have Utah tokens to trade for Idaho tokens.
Call Greg: 561-4802

All About Coins



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PROFESSIONAL NUMISMALIST

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ACTIVE TOKEN COLLECTORS ORGANIZATION

1996 TOKEN SHOW

HOSTED BY NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY

EXHIBITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Exhibits must be entered in one of the following categories
1. Tokens 2. Medals 3. Hand-held collectibles 4. Paper/Documents
2. The point system used in the judging of the exhibits are as follows:
35 pts.....Information measured in terms of educational value to the viewer.
30 pts.....Arrangement and Originality, Manner of Presentation.
15 pts.....Completeness, Range, Scope, and Variety of Coverage shown by the exhibit.
10 pts.....Condition, Quality of exhibit material compared to similar available material.
10 pts.....Rarity, considering condition of exhibit material.
3. Awards will be given by the Exhibit Chairman to 1st and 2nd places in each category, People's Choice, and Best of Show. All other exhibitors will receive a participation award.
4. Exhibitors **must be a member of ATCO or National Utah Token Society. Exhibitors may have only one (1) exhibit. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-reserve basis until all available space is allocated.** Applications will be accepted until **ONE DAY** before the show begins.
5. Exhibits **must be set up by 10:00 A.M. on the first day of the show (Saturday). Take-down and clean-up may begin at the earliest TWO (2) HOURS before the show ends and must be completed at the latest ONE (1) HOUR after the show ends. The show will end Sunday at 4:00 P.M.**

(Please Print)

APPLICATION TO EXHIBIT

I wish to exhibit at the **ATCO TOKEN SHOW**. I agree to follow the above mentioned rules and regulations. I understand that neither ATCO, its members, its officers, nor the host hotel are liable for any loss or damage to my exhibit. ATCO does not carry insurance covering dealers or displays.

Name of Exhibit: _____

Category Entered: (check one) #1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____ #4 _____

Special requirements: _____

Check one: I need (____) # of cases needed.(size: 22"X 34") I do not need any cases(____)
Use of cases is free for exhibits.

Signature of Applicant: _____

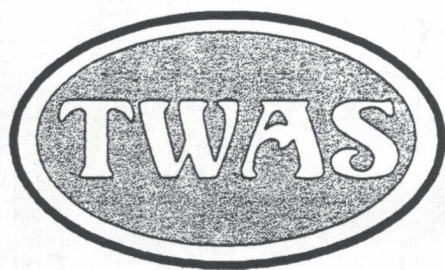
Please mail applications to:

ATCO

C/O Bob Campbell

1123 East 2100 South

Salt Lake City, Utah 84106



1996 ANNUAL TREASURE HUNT

Saturday, September 14, 1996

370 North Harrison, Ogden, Utah

11:30AM to 1:30PM = Speed Hunt & Registration

2:00PM = General Hunt

Entry Fee = \$15 Members / \$20 Non-Members
received by Wednesday, September 11, 1996

\$10 added late fee if received after September 11, 1996

Lots of prizes, including gold coins, metal detector, etc.

Prize Donations Welcome & Appreciated

Sign up at the club meeting or mail your entry to:

Trails West Artifact Society
370 North Harrison Blvd.
Ogden, UT 84404-4155



Phone: 1-801-621-6566, Dave Stuart, for more information



I apply for entry in the 1996 Annual TWAS Treasure Hunt to be held Saturday, September 14, 1996 at 370 North Harrison in Ogden, Utah. I agree to follow the rules of the hunt and I will hold no other person responsible for any injury to myself or to my equipment that occurs while I am attending the hunt.

Signed: _____ My entry fee is enclosed as follows:

- ☐ \$15.00 - Member of TWAS ☐ \$20.00 - Non-Member
☐ \$10.00 - Added Late Fee (received after September 11, 1996)

Name of Entrant (please print):

Address:

Phone: